

## River Heights & Ann Court Street Trees Discussion

Parks and Recreation

**Date:** Thu, Dec 9th 6:00pm - 7:00pm

**Location:** City Council Chambers

Master



**Primary Image Placement:** Left

The City of West Linn invites River Heights neighbors to a neighborhood discussion on the issues related to River Heights street trees. At this meeting, the City will present options for cost, a potential replacement plan, and project timing, as well as general discussion about this issue and the neighborhood impacts.

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **What's the problem with the street trees in River Heights and Ann Court?**

Numerous tree and/or major limb failures have prompted the need to remove the trees for neighborhood safety. The issue becomes even more pressing as we head into winter storm season.

#### **What is the suggested solution?**

The West Linn Tree Ordinances outlines street maintenance as the responsibility of the adjacent homeowner. But, given the hazards that these trees cause to people and property and the urgency for a safety solution, the City proposes that the City could incur the costs for removal and to work with the neighborhood to develop a replacement plan

#### **Why were these trees planted in the first place?**

Bradford or Callery pear trees were once thought to be ideal urban street trees. Communities across the country planted them in beauty strips because of their white flowers, lack of pest problems, and nice fall colors. As time has passed, the branching habit of these trees has shown that they are not appropriate trees for street planting. The City of West Linn no longer uses this variety as street trees.

#### **Why is this happening in West Linn?**

This problem is not unique to West Linn – it is happening in all communities that planted this type of tree 15 to 20 years ago.

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### How can we ensure that the neighborhood doesn't lose any trees as part of mitigation?

The neighborhood meeting on December 9 is designed to address all neighborhood issues related to tree and stump removal and replacement planning in River Heights. Please plan on attending, and encourage your neighbors to check this web page for information; the City will post more information here as it becomes available.

### I have some more questions – who should I contact?

Please click [kworcester \[at\] westlinnoregon \[dot\] gov](mailto:kworcester@westlinnoregon.gov) (**here** to email Parks & Recreation Director Ken Worcester).

### Other web resources:

- [University of Illinois article on Callery pear trees](#)
- [Master Gardener article on Bradford pear trees](#)
- [The Fun Times Gardner article on Bradford pear trees](#)

- [Parks and Recreation](#)
- [Master](#)

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